

CHRYSANTHEMUM PLANT NAMED '295-157-6'

Genus/species

Dendranthemum × hybrida

Cultivar designation '95-157-6'

AS AMENDED

Background of the Invention

The present invention comprises a new and distinctive chrysanthemum plant, hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name '95-157-6'. This new cultivar was the result of a cross in 1989 between Dendranthema weyrichii and Dendranthema grandiflora. More specifically, the breeding program, which resulted in the production of the new cultivar was carried out at-in St. Paul, Minnesota. The breeding program commenced with The a female or seed parentplant of '95-157-6' was a Dendranthema weyrichii, commercially available from White Flower Farms, Connecticut, which is unpatented, having the following characteristics: (a) -the plant habit is prostrate and the plant spreads via rhizomes to form a large mat after the first year; (b) the plant dimensions are that the plant has a diameter of about 1.5' and is about 5-6" tall; (c) the plant is hardy in zones 4-9 (Southeast)/Zone 10 (west); (d) the flower of the plant is a single daisy, having light lavender colored ray florets and central disc florets with yellow pollen; (e) the plant has leaves that are dark green in color, with a very shiny leaf surface (glossy), and glabrous leaf margins that are deeply incised; and (f) the plants tends to rosette, needs cold treatment to flower consistently, flowering can be sporadic with gaps in the plant architecture and the plant is an obligate short-day plant. The male or pollen parent of '95-157-6' plant used to initiate the breeding program was a Dendranthema grandiflora-which is commercial available from Yoder Brothers, Inc., Barberton, Ohio, which is unpatented, having the following characteristics: -(a) the plant habit is cushion; (b) the plant dimensions are that the plant is similar to other cushion types commercially available from Yoder Brothers, Inc., such as, but not limited to the variety, 'Shasta' (U.S. Plant Patent No. 9,314); (c) the plant is hardy in zones 6-9 (Southeast)/Zone 10 (west); (d) the flower is a single or duplex daisy, possibly orange or bronze ray florets, central disc florets with yellow pollen; (e) the plant has leaves that are similar to Yoder Brothers,

Inc.other cushion series of chrysanthemums; and (f) the plant is a facultative short-day plant. The resulting seeds, identified as '90-287-194' were collected. In 1991, a plant of '90-287-194' which is unpatented, was crossed as the male parent with plants identified as '77-AM3-3', a University of Minnesotaproprietary inbred parental selection, which is unpatented, as the female parent and the resulting seeds, identified as cross number '292-279-2' were collected. In 1994, a plant of '92-279-2', which is unpatented, was crossed as the male parent with plants of the cultivar 'Baby Tears' (unpatented), which is commercially available from Yoder Brothers, Inc., Barberton, Ohio, as the female parent and the resulting seeds, identified as cross number '95-157', were collected. In 1995, seedlings of the cross '95-157' were germinated and the flowering progeny evaluated. '95-157-6' was the sixth plant from the cross and was selected in the fall of 1995.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal or stem cuttings taken during 1996 through 1999 atin St. Paul, Minnesota, U.S.A. has demonstrated that the characteristics of the new cultivar as herein described are firmly fixed and are retained through successive generations of such asexual reproduction.

Summary of the Invention

It was found that the cultivar of the present invention:

- (a) exhibits extreme hybrid vigor;
- (b) develops, in its second and subsequent years after planting, when grown in the fall under natural daylength and without the application of growth regulators, into a flower herbaceous shrub having a plant height of from about 1.8 to about 2.25 feet and a spread form about 2.4 to about 5.0 feet,
- (c) exhibits, in its second and subsequent years after planting and during the fall season (August-October), a massive floral display,
- (d) displays flowers which are slightly toned with grey, giving the flower petals ray florets a slightly altered coloration,
 - (e) exhibits superior winter hardiness, including frost tolerance, and
 - (f) exhibits self-pinching.

The '95-157-6' cultivar has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions to date. Accordingly, it is possible that the phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in the environment, such as temperature, light intensity, and day length.

When the new cultivar of the present invention is compared to 'Stephanie' (U.S. Plant Patent No. 9,445), it is found to exhibit a more spreading and prolific habit accompanied with a massive floral display in its second and subsequent years after planting. Reference is made to Table 1 below, which compares certain characteristics of '95-157-6' to 'Stephanie'.

'95-157-6' 'Stephanie' Characteristics Capitulum form and type Flat daisy Pentaplex daisy Plant Height About 18 to 19 inches (first 10 to 12 inches year); about 1.8 to about 2.25 feet (second year) **Branching Pattern** Spreading and very prolific Spreading and very prolific. 6 weeks 7 weeks Flowering Response Flower-Inflorescence 7.1 cm 5.8 to 6.1 cm Diameter Ray florets, color, mature White White

Table 1

ORIGINAL SPECIFICATION

Brief Description of the Photographs

The accompanying photographs show as nearly true as it is reasonably possible to make the same color illustrations of this type, typical flower and foliage characteristics of the new cultivar. The plants were grown in a greenhouse at St. Paul, Minnesota, USA.

Figure 1 shows an adaxial and abaxial view of the leaf shape of chrysanthemum variety '95-157-6'.

Figure 2 shows the breeding history of chrysanthemum variety '95-157-6'.

Figure 3 is a color photograph of chrysanthemum variety '95-157-6' after two years of growth.

Detailed Botanical Description

The chart used in the identification of colors described is the 1966 R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society, London, England. The color values were determined on October 15, 1999 in St. Paul, Minnesota. The readings were taken between 1:30 and 2:00 PM under approximately 2500 footcandles of light. The plants were produced from cuttings taken from stock plants and were grown under greenhouse conditions in St. Paul, Minnesota comparable to those used in commercial practice while utilizing a soilless growth medium and maintaining temperatures of approximately 72°F during the day and approximately 65°F during the night. The plants described were one and two years of age from rooted cuttings.

Propagation

Type Herbaceous stem cutting

Time of rooting About 1 week

Rooting habit Vigorous

Botanical Classification $Dendranthemum \times hybrida$

Commercial Classification Chrysanthemum hybrid

Plant Description

Appearance, shape Spherical mound

Appearance, growth habit Cushion

Appearance, growth rate/vigor Vigorous

Plant height About 18 to about 19 inches (first year)

About 1.8 to about 2.25 feet (second year)

Lateral branch length 1 to 2.5 feet

Quantity of lateral branches after removal One per node

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of apical meristem

Stem color

RHS Paris Green 58/1

Foliage Description

Number of leaves per plant Greater than 8,000 (second year)

Number of leaves per lateral branch 5 to 20

Leaf arrangement Alternate

Leaf size, fully expanded, length 7.8 cm
Leaf size, fully expanded, width 4.8 cm

Leaf shape Ovate and narrowing towards base

Leaf apex Mucronulate

Leaf base Cuneate

Leaf margin Incised (Mulberry-like incisions)

Leaf texture Mildly hirsute

Petiole length 2.2 cm

Color, young foliage adaxial surface RHS Scheeles Green 860/2

Color, young foliage abaxial surface RHS Spinach Green o960/2

Color, fully expanded foliage abaxial surface RHS Spinach Green o960

Color, fully expanded foliage abaxial surface RHS Spinach Green o960/1 to

RHS Spinach Green o960/3

Color, venation adaxial surface RHS Spinach Green o960/2

Color, venation abaxial surface RHS Spinach Green o960/3

Color, petiole RHS Scheeles Green 860/1

Inflorescence Description Head (composite), pentaplex daisy

Flowering response About 6 weeks (SD under short days)

Quantity of inflorescences About 1,000 (first year)

About 3,000 (second year)

Inflorescence size, diameter 7.1 cm

Inflorescence size, depth (height) 3.4 cm

Inflorescence size, diameter of disc 1.0 cm

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Opening Inflorescences, bud shape

Dome shaped to upright tubular

Opening Inflorescences, bud size, length 0.6 cm
Opening Inflorescences, bud size, width 0.7 cm

Opening Inflorescences, bud color RHS Creamy White

Ray florets, shape Linear lanceolate

Ray florets, size, length

Ray florets, size, width

Ray florets, apex

Ray florets, base

Attenuate

Ray florets, margin Entire

Ray florets, texture Glabrous

Ray florets, aspect From about 45° vertical to slightly pendant 45°

Number of ray florets per inflorescence About 119

Ray florets, color, when opening,

adaxial surface RHS Sap Green 62/3

Ray florets, color, when opening,

abaxial surface RHS Uranium Green 63/3

Ray florets, mature, adaxial surface

RHS White
Ray florets, mature, abaxial surface

RHS White
Ray florets, fading to

RHS White

Disc florets, size, length 0.7 cm
Disc florets, size, width 0.2 cm

Number of disc florets per inflorescence About 100

Disc florets, color, immature RHS Straw Yellow 604

Disc florets, color, mature RHS Chinese Yellow 606

Peduncle, aspect, strength

Peduncle, aspect, angle to stem

Peduncle, length, first peduncle

3 cm

Peduncle, length, fourth peduncle 4.6 cm

Peduncle, texture Midly hirsute

Peduncle, color RHS Viridian Green 55/3

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Reproductive organs, androecium,

floret location

Disc florets

Anther color

RHS Canary Yellow 2/1

Pollen abundance

Abundant

Pollen, color

RHS Buttercup Yellow 5

Reproductive organs, gynoecium,

floret location

Disc/ray florets

Style color

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RHS Buttercup Yellow 5/2

Stamen Description

Stamens are located within each individual disk floret.

Each stamen is borne on a filament that, when mature

(dehiscent with pollen shedding longitudinally along the
long axis of the anther), places the stamens above the

stigma (i.e., the top portion of the pistil).

Pistil Number

Each ray floret possesses one pistil (there are approximately 60 per inflorescence). Likewise, each disk floret also possesses a pistil (there are approximately 191 per inflorescence). Therefore, the total number of pistils/inflorescence is 251 (60+191). The size of the pistil (length) is approximately 1 cm.

Disease Resistance

None Known as '95-157-6' has not been tested for any diseases.

Seed Production and Fruit

About 152 ovules/flower. The fruit is an achene, a dry, indehiscent fruit with a single locule and a single seed, and with the seed attached to the ovary wall at a single point. The achene does not have any pappus of awns for bristles; its general shape is a half-inflated football oval with pointed ends. Seed size is about 0.2-0.5 cm in length and

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about 0.1-0.2 cm in width. The surface texture is ridged. The color designation for the seed is RHS Brown Group 200D.

Fragrance

Fragrance is noticeable when handling or bruising the foliage.

Longevity of the Bloom

Flower longevity is temperature dependent. Under normal conditions in the field, during the fall season, flowers -inflorescences will typically last about 2-4 plus weeks.

Winter Hardiness

Hardy in zones 3-10 in uncovered field conditions without the need for added protection such as snow fences, mulch, etc.

Frost Tolerance

Yes, extends blooming season to the first freeze in the north (In zones 3-4 the first frost usually takes place between September 1-15. In zones 3-4, the first freeze usually takes place between October 1-20.

We Claim:

1. (Previously Amended). A new and distinct Chrysanthemum plant named '295-157-6' substantially as herein shown and described.

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Abstract of the Disclosure > No.

A new and distinct Chrysanthemum plant named '95-157-6 is provided.